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LETTER DATED 12 MARCH 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you the Statement of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued on 12 March 1993.

I request that this letter, together with the enclosed Statement of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) PAK Gil Yon
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement of DPRK Government

A grave situation has been created today in our country, which threatens its national sovereignty and the security of our State.

The United States and the South Korean Authorities have defiantly resumed the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises, a nuclear war rehearsal against the DPRK, and, in coincidence with this, some officials of the secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and certain member nations following the lead of the United States had a "resolution" adopted at the 25 February meeting of the IAEA Board of Governors, demanding a special inspection of our military sites unrelated to nuclear activities.

This is an encroachment on the sovereignty of the DPRK, an interference in its internal affairs and a hostile act aimed at stifling our socialism. The DPRK Government sharply condemns the reckless nuclear war machinations of the United States and the South Korean Authorities against the Korean people and decisively rejects the unjust resolution of the meeting of the IAEA Board of Governors.

Proceeding from its anti-nuclear, peace policy, the DPRK Government joined the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and has since fulfilled its obligations under the NPT in good faith. It was on the premise that the depository States of the NPT should neither deploy their nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula nor pose any nuclear threat against the DPRK that the DPRK Government signed the safeguards agreement with the IAEA and accepted the IAEA inspections.

Nevertheless, the United States remains unchanged in continuing its nuclear war threats against the DPRK, far from fulfilling its obligations under the NPT as a nuclear-weapon State to withdraw its nuclear weapons from South Korea and remove its nuclear war threats against the DPRK. The United States still maintains its nuclear weapons in South Korea and continues to reinforce its nuclear storages there with modernized nuclear weapons and equipment.

This serves to prove that the "statements" such as the so-called announcement on the "complete withdrawal of tactical nuclear weapons" by the United States and the "declaration on the absence of nuclear weapons" by the South Korean Authorities were all nothing but a trickery to deceive our people and the world peoples.

Although an agreement on non-aggression was reached between the North and the South and the DPRK has been faithfully fulfilling its international obligations under the NPT and the safeguards agreement, the proposed inspection of the United States nuclear weapons and nuclear bases in South Korea remains yet to be carried out and our people's misgivings about the United States nuclear threats have not yet been dispelled.

Despite the strong opposition by our people and the world peoples, the United States resumed when the inspection of our country by the IAEA was going

on the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises, which it had suspended before the IAEA inspections of the DPRK started, thus openly increasing its nuclear threats.

The "Team Spirit" joint military manoeuvres run downright counter to the idea and purposes of the NPT which calls for respect of territorial integrity and sovereignty and stop to nuclear threat. The resumption of the "Team Spirit" joint military manoeuvres, a nuclear war rehearsal targeted against the DPRK, is driving the situation on the Korean peninsula to such an unpredictable extreme, which has compelled our country to enter a semi-war state.

Still more grave is the fact that the IAEA passed a resolution aimed at forcing a "special inspection" of our military installations, thus joining the United States in its anti-DPRK machinations to "internationalize" the so-called "nuclear problem" of the DPRK and to impose "collective sanctions" and "pressure" on it.

It is on the basis of the "intelligence information "fabricated by the United States, a belligerent party vis-à-vis the DPRK, that some officials of the IAEA secretariat are trying to enforce the inspection of our major military installations which are unrelated to nuclear activities.

As for an inspection of the military installations in question, it has nothing to do at all with the inspections under the safeguards agreement. And it is a matter outside the competency of the IAEA.

If we submissively accept an unjust inspection by the IAEA, it would legitimize the espionage acts by the United States, a belligerent party vis-à-vis the DPRK, and set the beginning of the full exposure of all our military installations. Under our specific conditions in which the country still remains divided and exposed to the constant nuclear threats from the United States, it will be totally inconceivable to lay our military sites open to the enemies.

It is an old method of the United States to satisfy its demands one by one, that is, to demand the opening of one military site today and another tomorrow.

If we refuse to accept the "special inspection" of our military sites, the United States plans to charge the DPRK with "non-implementation of the special inspection" and take the matter to the Security Council of the United Nations so as to impose "collective sanctions" on the DPRK. This is the very scenario which the United States has written in advance.

If we failed to hold in check such conspiracy of the United States and its followers, our entire nation would be driven into confrontation and war and be made a victim of the big Powers.

Some officials of the IAEA secretariat have broken away from their original standpoint of supervising the implementation of the NPT on the basis of impartiality and strict neutrality. Therefore they can never evade the responsibility for joining the United States in its anti-DPRK manoeuvres.

Some officials of the IAEA secretariat insist so stubbornly on the "inspection" of our military bases, as dictated by the United States, while ignoring our demand for an inspection of the nuclear weapons and nuclear bases of the United States in South Korea. This is obviously an act biased in favour of the United States. A belligerent party vis-á-vis the DPRK.

Moreover, we can hardly repress our indignation at the application of dual criteria by the IAEA, which is putting pressure to bear upon the DPRK on charges of the alleged "nuclear weapons development", while tacitly approving the moves of Japan and South Korea for their nuclear armament.

The accession to the NPT by the DPRK Government was intended to remove the nuclear threats of the United States against the DPRK, never to sacrifice its sovereignty and security for someone's benefit. Because of the imprudent machinations on the part of the United States and its adherent forces, each time we undergo an inspection of the IAEA the nuclear threats against the DPRK increase, and the peace and security on the Korean peninsula is not ensured but disturbed.

All these facts evidently show that the United States, those forces hostile to the DPRK and some officials of the IAEA secretariat are misapplying the NPT to jeopardize the sovereignty and security of our country, a non-nuclear-weapon State, and stifle our socialist system.

Under such abnormal situation prevailing at present, we are no longer able to fulfil our obligations under the NPT.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea declares its decision to withdraw unavoidably from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty as a measure to defend its supreme interests.

The withdrawal from the NPT is a well-justified self-defensive measure against the nuclear war manoeuvres of the United States and the unjust act of some officials of the IAEA secretariat against the DPRK. The DPRK's principled stand will remain unchanged until the United States stops its nuclear threats against the DPRK and the IAEA secretariat returns to its principle of independence and impartiality.

The United States must give up its outdated way of thinking of the cold war era and immediately stop the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises, a nuclear war rehearsal, and refrain from manipulating the IAEA to discredit and strangle the non-nuclear-weapon States.

Even if the United States, the forces hostile to the DPRK and some officials of the IAEA secretariat threaten us with the "special inspection" or a certain "measure", we will never be frightened in the least. No robber-like argument and strong-arm acts will go down with us. Whatever "military threat", "political and ideological offensive" or "blockade" cannot block the march of our people.

The DPRK Government's policy of using nuclear energy for peaceful purpose remains unchanged and our people will continue to make every effort to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear weapon-free zone.

We avail ourselves of this opportunity to express our thanks to many IAEA member States and a number of the members of the IAEA Board of Governors cherishing international justice for their support and sympathy for the just stand of the DPRK.

Our rejection of the unjust "resolution" forced by the United States upon the meeting of the IAEA Board of Governors is meant to defend our country's sovereignty and at the same time to safeguard the common interests of the developing countries.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people are convinced that the Governments and peoples of the countries of the world that value peace and justice will pay a profound attention to the serious situation on the Korean peninsula and extend their support and solidarity to the self-defensive measure of the DPRK Government.

12 March 1993
Pyongyang